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FIRST WEEK'S FINALIST IS BUDDY TAYLOR OF OPP



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SOCIAL NEWS
Pages 4 & 5

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NEWS CONT'D
Page 9

INSIDE
CLASSIFIED ADS
Pages 10 & 11

The Elba Clipper

VOLUME 100, NUMBER 45

50 CENTS

ELBA, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1997

1 SECTION, 12 PAGES

County hires maintenance supervisor

By Marvin McLain, Editor

The Coffee County Commission in a 4-3 vote hired a new maintenance supervisor during Monday's meeting.

At times during the hiring process one could relate to the well-known comedy routine of "Who's on First?" by the late Bud Abbott and Lou Costello.

Before the hiring of a county maintenance supervisor took place, the commission took care of a matter carried over from the previous meeting.

The bids for the repairing of the undergarages on two dozers were rejected and are to be re-bid. This was approved at the recommendation of County Engineer Randy Tindell.

Tindell noted that the repair specifications are being reviewed and will be re-written prior to sending out bid requests.

Turning to new business, Phil Rugg was recognized by Commission Chairman Tom Grimsley. He was on the agenda to discuss promotion procedures. Rugg is a county employee who works in the county's maintenance department.

"I've been working with the maintenance department for a little over nine years," said Rugg. "I would like to request to be promoted to maintenance supervisor in accordance with the promotion policy of the employee's handbook."

After Rugg's statement, Commission Linda Westbrook made a motion that Rugg be promoted to the position of maintenance supervisor.

Chairman Grimsley asked the commission's attorney, Kenneth Fuller, "Can you make a motion like that when this commission has already decided the process that it would go through in hiring a maintenance supervisor?"

In the last commission meeting, a resolution was approved by the commission to allow Chairman Grimsley to appoint a screening committee.

The committee was to review the more than thirty applicants for the maintenance supervisor position and narrow the field to three to five individuals. The final decision of who would be hired was to be made by the commission.

Fuller's response to Grimsley was, "You can make a motion to rescind the former action [appointment of a screening committee] of the commission."

He further commented that Commissioner Westbrook, if she so desired, could, in her motion to rescind the previous action, include that Rugg be promoted to the position of maintenance supervisor.

"That's what I would like to do," Westbrook said.

A rather lengthy discussion ensued after the motion received a second.

Rugg commented that he had filled in for John Flowers, the previous maintenance supervisor, numerous times - anywhere from three months to a year at the time - since 1990. If there had been any complaints about the job he had done, Rugg stated that he had not been informed of them.

Westbrook told Chairman Grimsley that she had made a motion to promote Phil Rugg. She added that she did not think she could make a motion to rescind the commission's previous action.

Please See CCC, Page 9



ELBA W & E BOARD DONATES...the Elba Water and Electric Board recently donated \$1,000 to the Elba Elementary School. One \$500 check went to the Accelerated Reader Program and another \$500 check went to the Talent Pool Program. According to Board Chairman Tim Johnson, the excess operating funds of the Water and Electric Board are invested in areas to benefit the city's overall well being. "I have become well educated in these two programs and feel that these are just two of the many deserving programs in our city school system," said Johnson. "The donated funds are not simply a give-away to the school but an investment in a valuable resource - the education of our children." Shown presenting Judy Killingsworth (center), principal of Elba Elementary School, with the checks are Tim Johnson (left) and Elba Mayor James Grimes (right), who also serves as superintendent of the water and electric department.

City BOE hears report on lawsuit

By Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City School Board met last Thursday evening and in addition to routine business, heard a report on a class action suit, accepted a resignation and hired a replacement. The also heard Superintendent Charles Pearce report that he felt the students had gotten off to a great start with the SAT tests.

Pearce told board members of a class action suit filed by two recently retired North Alabama school teachers. The suit claims the schools reduced their retirement (and others

like them) by paying less than 100% of the "salary matrix," the issue which has been dominating teacher meetings, many board meetings and taking up much time in the legislature this year.

Pearce said that if this class action is won by the retired teachers, "it will open a can of worms." He gave several examples of other "what ifs" that could continue to clog the system.

The superintendent told board members that Elba only has one retired teacher which could be eligible for any additional payments if the

schools lose the suit.

He also showed them the additional benefits for a typical teacher if the 100% matrix is approved by the legislature as presently being recommended by committee.

The board accepted the resignation of Bobby Gully as custodian in the high school. He resigned after 11 years to accept a position with the U. S. Post Office. Hired to replace him was Tim Williams.

Pearce reported that the school system has received \$84,750.00, or 95%, of the state capital projects funds for the year. This money had been anticipated and budgeted by the board to complete the construction of the bus barn.

The financial statement for March showed a deficit of \$35,942.00 in the Goals 2000 money account. Pearce explained this is a federal fund account and is not funded until after the school has made the preapproved purchase and has a paid receipt for the equipment. The money is then reimbursed to the school.

The revenue balance on hand continues to drop, which is normal at this time of year, according to Board Chairperson, Mrs. Myrna Cowen. She noted that after the fall peak in property tax revenues, the ending balances decline on a monthly basis.

The school board meets monthly, usually on the Thursday evening nearest to the tenth of the month.

Jury awards Coffee County \$15,000 in Ammons lawsuit

By Marvin McLain, Editor

Last week, the civil jury in the case of Coffee County Vs. Wendell "Buddy" Ammons returned a verdict favorable to the county.

The five-man seven-woman jury awarded the county \$15,000.00 in comprehensive damages.

The lawsuit was filed against Ammons in 1992 after his ex-wife, Marilyn Ammons, pled guilty to stealing \$334,527.83 from Coffee County. She was a bookkeeper for the county for 13 years.

Late in 1991, Ms. Ammons was sentenced to 15 years in prison. She served fifteen months of the sentence and has since been released. She is making restitution to the county through monthly payments of \$10.00.

During the course of the trial, the county's attorney, Kenneth Fuller, contended that certain items were purchased with the stolen funds and later sold by Mr. Ammons. The plaintiff's attorney focused on two items: a bass boat and travel trailer.

Ms. Ammons, during testimony, stated that Mr. Ammons did not assist her in any way in stealing the county funds. She also testified that the funds used to purchase the boat and travel trailer were secured through a bank loan.

At the time of the incident involving Ms. Ammons, Buddy Ammons was a deputy sheriff with the Coffee County Sheriff's Department. After Ms. Ammons' indictment by a Coffee County grand jury in 1991, Buddy was dismissed from the sheriff's department.

When the county filed suit against Mr. Ammons, he filed a countersuit against the county.

At the conclusion of last week's trial, Circuit Judge William A. Barr also ruled in favor of the county by dismissing the countersuit.

Ammons has the right to appeal the decisions made in last week's court action. At this time, he has not decided whether or not to do so.

Ammons is presently employed with the Enterprise Police Department as an investigator.

Meet Your Elba Police Officers

Meet Police Officer James Anthony Dozier. Anthony is a native of Elba and has been a member of the Elba Police Department since 1994.

Officer Dozier presently works in the patrol division of the department on second shift.

Prior to joining the Elba Police Department, Dozier worked with the Opp Police Department for two years.

Anthony graduated from the Montgomery Police Academy. "I enjoy working with others in the community," said Dozier. "I don't like dealing with individuals who have a negative attitude toward police officers."

One of Officer Dozier's most memorable experiences is having to arrest three people at the same time.

For Elba, he would like to see a better community relationship between the department and the residents of the town.

"I would like to see the department have better equipment which the chief is working on for us," said Dozier.



Anthony's hobbies include all kinds of sports and singing. Officer Dozier is married and has two children. His wife's name is Deborah and his children's names are Markita Shaerail and Chelsea Lynn.

Elba police and drug task force make drug busts

By Marvin McLain, Editor

Last week, officers with the Elba Police Department and members of the 12th Judicial Drug Task Force joined together in making two drug busts.

Last Thursday afternoon, two Elba residents were arrested on drug charges. They were: Jerry Mack Bradshaw, 45, of Route 4, Elba and a juvenile.

Bradshaw was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana in the second degree and the juvenile was charged with unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

The arrests resulted in the seizure of a quantity of marijuana and ten marijuanas plants valued at approximately \$20,000.00. Also several firearms were confiscated.

Investigator Johnny Senn, an officer with the Elba Police Department

and a member of the drug task force, stated that the operation was a team effort.

Several Elba police officers and investigators worked together in gathering information on the drugs and developing that information into a successful conclusion.

In an unrelated incident, Elba police officers and drug task force members arrested another Elba resident and charged the individual with unlawful possession of marijuana in the first degree.

In connection with the arrest, a large quantity of marijuana valued at approximately \$800.00 was seized. At this time, the name of the individual arrested has not been released due to the on-going investigation.

Both incidents are being investigated by the Elba Police Department and the 12th Judicial Circuit Drug Task Force.

Calf diagnosed with rabies in Coffee County

By Marvin McLain, Editor

The diagnosis of a rabid calf in Coffee County prompted public health officials to encourage pet owners to be sure their dogs and cats are vaccinated against the fatal disease.

Officials also warn people not to approach stray animals, wildlife and bats.

the Elba Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

Brain tissue was subsequently sent for rabies examination to the Alabama Department of Public Health's Bureau of Clinical Laboratories - Dothan Division Laboratory, which confirmed the presence of the rabies virus.

"This case serves as evidence that

Please See RABID, Page 9

* * HAPPENINGS * *

FUTURE LITTLE MISS & LITTLE MISS ELBA PAGEANT
The Future Little Miss and Little Miss Elba Pageant is scheduled for Friday, April 18, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the Elba High School Auditorium. Alison McCreary, Miss Alabama 1996, will be emcee and also will provide entertainment. Little Miss Peanut 1996 Kelli Calhoun will also be performing at the pageant.

MISS & JR. MISS ELBA PAGEANT
The Miss and Junior Miss Elba Pageant is scheduled for Saturday, April 19, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the Elba High School Auditorium. Carrie Johnson, of WSFA-TV's "Today In Alabama" will emcee the event. Rob and Kelly Hudson of Nashville will be providing entertainment. A special invitation is extended to all former Miss Elbas. They are being asked to call the Elba Chamber of Commerce at 897-3125 if they plan to attend. Special recognition and reserve seating will be available for the former queens.

ELBA TIGER BAND DAY
The Elba Band Boosters will sponsor their annual Tiger Band Day on the courthouse square in downtown Elba on Saturday, April 19. There are many activities being planned for the festive day. All proceeds from Band Day '97 will directly benefit the Elba High School Band. To buy uniforms, instruments, music, and many other much needed items, in case of inclement weather, the festivities will be moved to the old Army Reserve Center on Claxton, Avenue.

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

Last Wednesday morning our day was thrown off schedule by about four hours due to automobile problems. In spite of the delay, the day was going so well it was decided this was an example of taking lemons and making lemonade. It started about 6:30 a.m. just South of Dothan on the four lane. We stopped because the engine wasn't running good and then it wouldn't restart. The problem turned out to be a bad alternator. We were at the L.A. Food Mart, a convenience store on the south-bound side of the road, owned and operated by Dan Calhoun, and he called "his mechanic" because he was a good man and a Christian. It was a while before mechanics came to work and we just talked with Calhoun and some other nice gentlemen drinking their morning coffee. At 7:30 here comes the mechanic... Roy Chappell, a native of Elba! He operates Alabama Radiator and Auto Electric on South Oates Street. He learned his trade from his father, the late S.R. Chappell who operated a garage in the building now occupied by Hammond Body Shop. The service manager is Billy Howell, another interesting and likable person. The "main man", who fixed the alternator, is Nathan... a young man who really knows his job. While waiting for, and watching, the rebuild, we also met an interesting customer, in for the same problem. He was Jesse B. Ward, a farmer who lives on Rt. 2, Harford. Each of these people happened to know someone we knew, had done something and/or been somewhere we have been. It could have been a bad morning, but because there are still some great people in this world, that day will go down as a highlight of our life... and the price was right!

One more comment about Alabama Radiator and Auto Electric. There is the usual selection of sayings on the door and wall and a couple were new to us. Here is one:

Labor Rates \$35.00
IF you watch \$40.00
IF you help \$50.00
IF you worked \$60.00
on it first

Needless to say, we worked to earn the lowest rate. Oh, another poster invited us to visit with the mechanic all we wanted, 'cause we were paying the labor bill.

Anyone tempted to knock the American education system needs to remember the following may very well explain why someone might think the schools are not teaching everything they should. This is especially true for those of us who have been around for more than a few years. Anyway the experts report that there has been more information produced in the last 30 years than during the previous 5,000. How can anyone expect a system which did a good job of at least putting all the information out there 30, 40 and 50 years ago... how can we expect the same system to put out that much more information in the same time frame?

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 Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$15.00 Per Year
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BEHIND BARS AWAITING BAIL . . . A few of Elba's prominent citizens will be locked up Saturday, April 19, until they can raise enough money to post their bail of \$100 each. The "innates" will be jailed on the courthouse square, in conjunction with the annual Elba Band Day. The band boosters will begin "locking" people up at 9 a.m. and continue throughout the day of festivities. Money raised will enable the band members to purchase uniforms, instruments, music, and travel to out-of-town football games.

ELBA POLICE REPORT

APRIL 7 Thru APRIL 13, 1997

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, April 7, 1997, investigated the following incidents: one DUI, three criminal mischiefs, four thefts of property, one harassment, one missing person, five assaults, twelve criminal trespasses, three harassing communications, one forgery, one unlawful possession of marijuana, one disorderly conduct, and one hit and run.

Arrests were as follows: one for criminal mischief, two for harassment, one for disorderly conduct, and one for assault. Traffic citations issued were as follows: one for DUI and two for speeding.

Daily activity highlights were as follows:
MONDAY, APRIL 7 - River stage - 5:05 feet (6:42 a.m.); Alarm at The Peoples Bank (8:10 a.m.); Wreck reported near the Big Bear (4:22 p.m.).

TUESDAY, APRIL 8 - River stage - 5:00 feet (6:31 a.m.); Alarm at 189N (4:19 p.m.); Rescue run to a wreck on AL Hwy. 189N (4:29 p.m.); Rescue run to a residence on Cedar Lane Drive (5:25 p.m.); Wreck reported on U.S. Hwy. 84W (10:40 p.m.); Burglary reported on Putnam St. (11:15 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9 - Disturbance (loud music) reported on Gray St. (12:07 a.m.); River stage - 4:79 feet (6:42 a.m.); Routine activity.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10 - Fire department dispatched to a fire (grill) at Hardee's (5:39 a.m.); River stage - 4:57 feet (6:46 a.m.); Fire department dispatched to a grass fire on Co. Rd. 349 (10:16 a.m.); Rescue run to a residence on AL Hwy. 167N (12:51 p.m.); Alarm at Kleiner's (2:59 p.m.); Rescue run to a residence on Guyton St. (8:22 p.m.).

FRIDAY, APRIL 11 - Burglary reported at Daniel's BP Station (5:11 a.m.); River stage - 4:36 feet (6:31 a.m.); Routine activity.

BE CAREFUL!

MAKING OURSELVES CLEARER

The Elba Clipper wants to correct errors that appear in this newspaper. Any reader wishing to point out our errors, whether ours or those of our sources, should contact the editor at 897-2823. Clarifications will appear promptly in this space.

Bulletin Board

S.S. REP. - Courthouse, 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213.
 ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon - First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.
 ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. - Tues. 8:00 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
 ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Mondays - 6:00 p.m. City Hall.
 WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6:00 p.m. City Hall.
 COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Mondays of each month - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton.
 LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizens Center.
 ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thurs. - 5:30 p.m., Supp. Office.
 AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Thurs. - 7:30 p.m., Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
 RESCUE SQUAD - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 7:00 p.m., Rescue Squad Building.
 MASONIC LODGE 178 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month - 7 p.m.
 BAND BOOSTERS 1st Mon. - 7 p.m., Band Room @ Elba High School.
 VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER Mon-Fri 8-12 noon & 12:30-4:30. New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5858.
 COFFEE COUNTY COONHUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. 12 p.m. - Club House.
 COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN 3rd Sat. Noon - Country Inn, Enterprise.
 AIRPORT AUTHORITY 1st Tuesday-12 Noon - City Hall Conference Room.
 AARP Meets every 3rd Tuesday night of each month.
 CIVIL AIR PATROL Every Monday 7:00 p.m. - Elba Airport-Deaton hangar.

This space made pos. use by National Security Insurance Co.



1996 MISS ELBA Destiny Brown; **JUNIOR MISS ELBA** Misty Kelley; and **LITTLE MISS ELBA** Haley Stinson. will be ending their reign this weekend when the 1997 pageants are held this weekend, Friday and Saturday, April 18 and 19, at the Elba High School auditorium. The Future Little Miss and Little Miss Elba portion of the pageant will be held Friday night, with Emcee and special entertainment by Miss Alabama, Alison McCreary, and 1996 Little Miss Peanut, Kelli Calhoun. The Junior Miss and Miss Elba pageant will be held Saturday night, with Carrie Johnson of WSAF-TV as Emcee, and entertainment by Rob and Kelly Hudson of Nashville, Tenn. Both events are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

Future Little Miss contestants are: Nikki Fuller, Koleria Jana Burrows, Taylor LaAndra Credi, Haley Celeste Bryan, Brittany Hay, Kydra Tills, Britney Johnson, Brittany Michelle Chandler, Cortlin Megan Lee, Cornee BreeAnn Driggers, Emilee Taylor Williamson, Rebecca Megan Sullivan, Daniqua Horstead, Kelsey LaNise Horstead Jones, Keri A'Nise Horstead Jones, Larona Renee Turner, Latanda Tyson, and Brittany Chestnut. Little Miss contestants are: Tiffany Jean Bryan, Samantha Lynn Chandler, Jessica Marie Johnson, Kayla Kriston Kysar, Marisa Shay Carpenter, Amber Mae Coleman, and Krystan Paige Parker. Junior Miss contestants are: Valerie Moore, Cammie Kelley, Shay Johnson, Vaughn Boyd, and Haylee Coleman. Miss Elba contestants are: Andrea Carley, Misty Kelley, Sasha Kidd, Crystal Wing, Brandie Mann, Elizabeth Strong, and Kerry Kelley.

The Elba Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring this year's pageant, with local merchants, businesses and individuals providing gift certificates, savings bonds, and scholarships for the winners.

Directors of the pageant are: Starla Amison, Kim Lowery, Danielle Tew, Indya Lawless, Sabrina Kelley, and Destiny Brown.

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AREA DEATHS

COMPTON EDWIN COOPER

Mr. Compton Edwin Cooper, age 69, of Rt. 3, Cyp, died April 11, 1997, at Flowers Hospital.

Mr. Cooper was a lifetime resident of Elba and Coffee County.

Graveside services were held April 12, at 2 p.m. in the Pine Level Cemetery of Elba, with Rev. Marvin Emms officiating and Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his mother: Claude Mae Cooper of Elba; one son: Compton Wayne Cooper, Augusta, Ga.; one daughter: Eden Renee Vickrey, Stafford, Va.; two sisters: Mavis Hanchey, Elba, and Debbie Farley, Columbus, Ga.; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

MRS. MATTIE CORA THOMAS

Mrs. Mattie Cora Thomas died April 3, 1997, in Oakview Manor, Ozark, Ala.

She was born July 13, 1896, in Tenille, Ala., to Walter and Ella N. Lee.

Funeral services were held Sunday, April 6, 1997, at 2:30 p.m. at Bethany Baptist Church, New Brockton, with Ministers Rev. Lane Harris, Rev. Elbert Smith and Rev. Ralph Medley officiating. Burial will be in Bethany Baptist Church Cemetery, New Brockton, with Searcy Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Myers was preceded in death by his father, Mr. Earnest Myers, and a sister, Pat Wall.

Survivors include his wife: Bridget Myers, Rt. 1, New Brockton; his son: Ernest Baker, Elba; step-daughter: LaKisha LeGear, Rt. 1, New Brockton; step-son: Ashley LeGear, Rt. 1, New Brockton; his mother: Mrs. Vonelle Myers, Rt. 1, New Brockton; nine sisters: Carolyn Adams, New Brockton; Marilyn Myers, Enterprise; Patsy Hanks, Marge Nungesser, Linda Wright, and Lynn Allison, all of Rt. 1, New Brockton; Judy Grant, Enterprise; Given McCallister, Dothan, and Betty Land, Macon, Ga.; and four brothers: Billy Myers, Birmingham; Jimmy Myers and Earnest Keith (Buck) Myers, both of Enterprise; 31 nieces and nephews.

FREDDY MYERS

Mr. Freddy Myers, age 44, of Rt. 1, New Brockton, died Saturday, April 12, 1997, at the family home at Rt. 1, New Brockton.

Funeral services are being held today, Thursday, April 17, at 2 p.m. at Bethany Baptist Church, New Brockton, with Ministers Rev. Lane Harris, Rev. Elbert Smith and Rev. Ralph Medley officiating. Burial will be in Bethany Baptist Church Cemetery, New Brockton, with Searcy Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Myers was preceded in death by his father, Mr. Earnest Myers, and a sister, Pat Wall.

Survivors include his wife: Bridget Myers, Rt. 1, New Brockton; his son: Ernest Baker, Elba; step-daughter: LaKisha LeGear, Rt. 1, New Brockton; step-son: Ashley LeGear, Rt. 1, New Brockton; his mother: Mrs. Vonelle Myers, Rt. 1, New Brockton; nine sisters: Carolyn Adams, New Brockton; Marilyn Myers, Enterprise; Patsy Hanks, Marge Nungesser, Linda Wright, and Lynn Allison, all of Rt. 1, New Brockton; Judy Grant, Enterprise; Given McCallister, Dothan, and Betty Land, Macon, Ga.; and four brothers: Billy Myers, Birmingham; Jimmy Myers and Earnest Keith (Buck) Myers, both of Enterprise; 31 nieces and nephews.

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Share Your Views! Write a Letter To the Editor.

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Candidates sought for "Desert Storm Syndrome" study

On Jan. 31, 1997, the Dept. of Defense awarded a grant to the Louisiana Medical Foundation in New Orleans, La., to study the probability of using the antibacterial treatment method to treat "Desert Storm Syndrome" affected veterans.

The study will be conducted in conjunction with the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

The protocol for the study calls for approximately 40 veterans to participate in the study. Pre- and post-evaluations of each approved candidate will be performed at Stony Brook Medical Center in New York.

Actual treatment will be performed at Touro Infirmary in New Orleans, conducted by Dr. Edward S. Hyman of New Orleans, La., and Dr. Quentin B. Deming of Hanover, N.H.

Candidates will have an opportunity to interview for the study on

Job placement down slightly in March

Job placements by the State Employment Service in March, 1997, trailed last March by about four percent, according to Dottie Blair Cieszynski, director of the Alabama Dept. of Industrial Relations.

March placements totaled 7,383. Total placements for the first three months of 1997 are slightly ahead of last year. Our total for the quarter is 21,340.

The Albertville local office led the state with 628 job placements. Other local offices with good reports were: Opelika - 522; Montgomery - 411; Decatur - 387; and Birmingham/Downtown - 366.

Offices showing the greatest improvement were: Greenville - up by 172 percent; Andalusia - 156 percent higher; and Troy - up by 85 percent.

About 32 percent of the workers placed in jobs in March were unemployment compensation claimants.

Monday, April 21, beginning at 8 a.m. CST. Dr. Hyman and Dr. Deming will be present at the Sheraton Perimeter Hotel in Birmingham, located at the intersection of Interstate 459 and Highway 280.

Veterans from the State of Alabama and surrounding states are invited to interview. A designated hospital area will be provided for the veterans waiting to be interviewed, and lunch will be provided.

Those desiring to arrive on Sunday will be responsible for their own room cost; however, please request the special "Desert Storm" room rate when making your reservation.

To register for the interview process, veterans must call 304/899-2228 and provide the requested information. Additionally, it is very important that each veteran have medical records available during the interview.

In Coffee County, call Robert Lolley at 894-5858 or drop the flag (s) by the office located in the office complex in New Brockton, by Monday, June 2.

Anyone wishing to have an unseverable U.S. flag disposed of properly may contact any area American

Legion member, or call the local Veterans Service Office.

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Social News

Miss Marsh to wed Mr. Cotney July 5th



Miss Lori Marsh

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Marsh of Elba announce the engagement of their daughter, Lori Ann, to Larry Parrish Cotney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cotney of Lakeland, Fla.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Wilkerson of the Victoria Community, and Mrs. Gwendolyn Marsh and the late Mr. Robert L. Marsh of Elba.

She is a 1992 graduate of Elba High School and a 1996 graduate of Troy State University. She is employed at Central High School in Coosa County, where she teaches Spanish.

The future groom is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. R.P. Pepper of Lakeland, Fla., and Mrs. Josephine Cotney and the late Mr. Fred L. Cotney Sr. of Bowling Green, Fla.

He is a 1993 graduate of Lakeland High School and a 1995 graduate of Enterprise State Junior College. He is currently attending the University of Montevallo, where he will graduate in December with a degree in Secondary Education.

The wedding will be an event of July 5 at two o'clock in the afternoon at the Elba United Methodist Church.

No local invitations are being sent. All friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Powell family reunion planned for April 26th

All descendants of Charlie Willard Powell are invited to attend a family reunion April 26, at the Farm Center in New Brockton.

The get-together will begin at 10 a.m. and last until 7 p.m.

Sanders—Bryan wedding planned for June 7th



Miss Shannon Sanders and Mr. Kevin Bryan

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Sanders of Troy announce the engagement of their daughter, Shannon Sanders, to Kevin Bryan, son of the late Johnny W. Bryan and Sherry Young of Elba.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Grissett of Troy and Mr. and Mrs. Wyman Sanders of Grady.

She is a 1995 graduate of Charles Henderson High School in Troy, and attended Troy State University.

The future groom is the grandson of the late James G. and Cora Dodson and the late James M. and Leslie W. Bryan.

He is a 1993 graduate of Elba High School and attends Troy State University.

The wedding will be an event of Saturday, June 7, at six o'clock in the evening in Briar Hill at the Miles residence.

No local invitations will be sent. All friends and relatives are invited.

"Mayfest 97" set for May 3rd in Atmore

"Mayfest 97," a celebration of spring at Tom Byne Memorial Park in Atmore, will be held Saturday, May 3.

Events for the day will include a great entertainment, beautiful baby contest, tennis, softball and volleyball tournaments and great food.

Also, there will be the "Williams Station" train ride, a petting zoo, and pony rides for the children.

Festival hours are 9 - 5 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information call the Atmore Chamber of Commerce at 334/368-3305.

LIBRARY NOTES

All overdue books may be returned to the Elba Public Library on Friday, April 25, without any overdue charge.

Bridal Registry

Bradley Florist & Gift
• Crystal Stems
• China
• Flatware
305 Collier - 897-3422

BEAVER DAM APARTMENTS

Highway 84 W. Elba, AL.

Now Accepting Applications

1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments
3 - Bedroom Townhouses
Units available for elderly,
handicapped & disabled

FREE MONTHLY
INCLUDES
Water, sewage, Garbage
Pick-up & Pest Control.
On site laundry facilities
& playground for children



Deadline for Social & Church News is

MONDAY

Mrs. Phyllis Hudson is guest speaker at Magnolia Home & Garden Club meeting

The Magnolia Home and Garden Club held its April meeting in the Elba Public Library on Thursday, April 3. Hostesses were Mrs. Gayle Brownlee and Mrs. June Thompson.

Members and guests were treated to delicious home-baked coffee cake and accompaniments.

Mrs. Phyllis Hudson was guest speaker for the day. She represents the Tombigbee Hospice Program and gave an interesting and informative discussion of the work of that organization.

The last meeting of the year will be held May 1 at place to be announced.

The meeting was adjourned.

Twentieth Century Study club holds April meeting at Elba Public Library

The Twentieth Century Study Club met April 10 at the Elba Public Library. Serving as hostesses for the meeting were Martha Stephens and Ethelene Tucker.

A delicious fruit dessert was served to the members and guests.

Donald and Jean Kelly presented an interesting program on ceramics. There was a display of their art around the room.

President Grace Taylor called the meeting to order and led members in the reading of the club's Collect. A business meeting followed. A new member, Cathryn Kelly, was welcomed into the club.

Those attending were Betty Brunson, Carolyn Brunson, Doris Cooper, Ann Davis, Treva Driscoll, Judy Eastburn, Nell Harverson, Anne Miles, Martha Stephens, Peggy Stroud, Grace Taylor, Elaine Thompson, Ethelene Tucker, Betty Vaughan, Patsy Williams and Cathryn Kelly.

Jordan-Walden wedding held February 21st

Chris Jordan and Marsha Walden were married on Feb. 21, 1997.

Chris is the son of Danny and Sandra Jordan. Marsha is the daughter of Alfred and Rita Davis.

Mrs. Annie Belle Burch celebrates 90th birthday

Mrs. Annie Belle Burch celebrated her 90th birthday during the weekend of April 5, 1997.

The family festivities got underway Thursday evening with the arrival of two of her out-of-town children, and on Friday evening a fish supper was enjoyed by the visiting children and the local members.

The "big fun" took place on Saturday, April 5, as more out-of-town children, family and friends arrived bearing gifts, flowers, cards, and well-wishes.

The back yard was decorated with "happy birthday" banners, balloons and crepe paper.

A picnic style lunch of ham, fried chicken and all the trimmings was served, along with numerous desserts and the official "90th" birthday cake.

Prior to the lunch hour, Mrs. Burch received in the mail a birthday greeting bearing the official presidential seal from President and Mrs. Clinton. The surprise card was placed in a frame and prominently displayed for everyone to see.

An amusing activity of the celebration took place when the 17 grandchildren and great-grandchildren were divided into two teams and asked family trivia questions, such as the birth order of the eight siblings, names of the great-grandparents, names of the oldest and youngest grandchild, the number and names of the grandparents' brothers and sisters, favorite vices, sayings, etc.

Forty-nine family members and friends were present to enjoy the Saturday birthday party. This included all eight of Mrs. Burch's children.

Everyone signed a keepsake book and wrote short notes of reflection to the honoree.

On Sunday, a southern style meal was enjoyed with more out-of-town family and friends arriving for the night, while some of the earlier arrivals had to leave.

Annie Belle Burch was born April 5, 1907, on a snow-covered morning in Crenshaw County, Ala., the daughter of the late Charlie and Sarah Mills Beck. She and John Daniel Burch eloped to the preacher's house on March 3, 1928, and were married by the Rev. Sutley.

To the Burches were born two sons and six daughters: AJ, Burch, Lowell Burch, Annie Mae Lee, Grace Day, Kitty Savidge, Molly Sellner, Dixie Sciacca, and Patsy Jones.

Mrs. Burch is grandmother to ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



Miss Johanna New

New - Simpson wedding planned for June 7th

Dr. and Mrs. Gerald New of Decatur announce the engagement of their daughter, Johanna New Simpson, to Ryan Stuart Simpson, son of Ryan Stuart Simpson, also of Birmingham, son of the Rev. and Mrs. James Homer Simpson Sr. of Selma.

The bride-elect is a 1990 graduate of Selma High School and a 1994 graduate of Birmingham-Southern College.

Mr. Simpson is a 1991 graduate of The Webb School in Bell Buckle, Tenn. She attended Birmingham-Southern College and is a 1996 graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham with a bachelor of science degree in nursing.

She is a member of Kappa Delta Sorority and is employed by University Hospital in Birmingham as a registered nurse.

The wedding will be an event of June 7 at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Decatur.

The prospective bridegroom is the grandson of Clara Vail Simpson of Selma, the late James Homer Simpson, Wilhelmina Scott of Greenville, S.C., and the late Hugh Dorsey Scott.

Mr. Simpson is a 1990 graduate of Selma High School and a 1994 graduate of Birmingham-Southern College.

He received a master's degree in business administration in 1997 from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He is pursuing a master's degree in health administration at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and will begin an administrative residence in June in Knoxville. He is a member of Kappa Alpha Order.

The wedding will be an event of June 7 at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Decatur.

She has lost to death her husband Dan on Sept. 19, 1983, as well as all her brothers and sisters.

Although Mrs. Burch has suffered many medical problems, she "still remains semi-mobile with a very alert mind," according to a daughter, and "we are all looking forward to another birthday celebration in 1988," she added.

Lee-Smith wedding planned for April 26th

Regina M. Lee, daughter of Mary F. Lee and the late Jack Lee of Elba; and Donald M. Smith, son of Minnie R. Smith and the late M.O. (Stump) Smith of Banks, announce their wedding plans for April 26, 1997, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

The wedding will take place at the home of Mike and Suzanne Clemmons on Pike County Rd. 6, Brundidge.

All family and friends are invited to attend.

Mr. Smith & Miss Lee

50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

50

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Celebrating our 50th Anniversary of Serving Elba's Insurance needs

ROBERT MARSH 1947 - 1994

STAN MARSH 1973 - 1997

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Marsha Mauldin serves tea to Andrea Camley and Bonnie Vaughan.

Girl Scouts entertain mothers with English Tea recently

Members of Senior Girl Scout Troop 300 entertained at a Mother-Daughter English Tea on Sunday afternoon, April 13. Some 90 guests attended the party, which was held at Aunt B's in Elba.

Arriving guests were welcomed on the porch by Emily Benbow who presided over the registry table.

The registry table, draped in pink-checked gingham, held a small silver tray on which was placed a Victorian silver tussie mussie of spring flowers.

Deanna Farris pinned teapoth-shaped name tags on each guest and invited them into the house.

Greeting guests at the door were Anna Head, Anna Maddox, Katie Vaughan and Tiffany Farris. They presented each lady to Mrs. Robert Cannon, troop leader, and then to Melissa Benbow, senior and troop president, and her mother, Mrs. Jeff Benbow.

Misty Kelley and Raean McCollough invited the ladies into the music room where tea was being served.

The tea table was covered with a sheer linen cloth and centered with an English arrangement of pink tulips, purple iris, yellow Fuji mums and white daisies placed in a footed silver bowl which was flanked by three-branch silver candelabra holding white candles.

Elizabeth Strong, Vaughan Boyd, Brandee Farris and Emily Bryan served tea from silver services placed at each end of the table.

The tea was "Earl Grey," reported to be the Queen's favorite brand, and was served in the English manner with thin slices of lemon and natural brown sugar from Bismarck.

Shea Fice and Bonnie Vaughan invited visitors into the dining room where Lindsey Jared directed them to the dining table.

Covered in sheer, white embroidered linen, the table held a massive arrangement of tulips, iris and daisies similar to that on the tea table, but enhanced with umbrella palm, English ivy, sweetshrub, shrimp plant, pansies and Gerbera daisies, all in a silver Windrop bowl.

Marsha Mauldin served small, hot biscuits (similar to English scones) from an antique silver English bun warmer. These were served with raspberry jam.

Andrea Camley and Shanna Tillis presided over the table which held trays of cucumber sandwiches, small

open-faced tomato and bacon sandwiches and smoked salmon on crackers.

A tiered crystal stand held straw-berries.

All the refreshments were made following recipes found in "The London Ritz Book of Afternoon Tea," which describes the serving of tea at London's famous Ritz hotel.

Katie Holloway held a large wicker basket lined with lace and ribbon and filled with linen napkins edged with crocheted trim made by Mrs. Cannon's mother.

Hostesses in the living room were Kendra Vaughan, Kimberley Ward and Melissa Grantham. They invited guests to speak to seniors Renee Nicholson and Britany McCall, and their mothers, Mrs. Patricia Nicholson and Mrs. Van McCall.

Laura Crowe then invited them into the family sitting room. Senior Kayron Whitworth and her mother, Mrs. Ronnie Whitworth, recited in this room, where Emily Qualls and Reese Grantham were hostesses.

Elizabeth Stephens thanked guests for attending, as they departed through the sun porch.

Invited to the tea were the mothers of Scout Troop 300, members of the Garrett Dunaway class of the Methodist Church, which sponsors the troop, current Girl Scout leaders and their daughters, and ladies who have been Girl Scout supporters through the years.

Other attractions include many artists and craftsmen displaying a wide variety of works, including flower arranging, "Ikebana," Oriental flower arranging, dinner table designs, dried wreaths, live topiaries, landscaping and large arrangements.

Each class is \$10 and registration is recommended. The flower designing classes will be held in the college's Multi-Purpose Room.

For more information call 347-9724.

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For

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Janna Hughes is the 18-year-old daughter of Edward and Janet Hughes. Her hobbies are being with her boyfriend, William, and talking on the phone. She attends Shepherd's Fold Church of God. Janna is also a member of Spanish Club and EHLA. The best thing she likes about EHS is the great friends she has made.

Glenn Davis is the 15-year-old son of Doug and Cara Davis. His hobbies are going camping and being in the band. He attends Liberty Church of Christ. Glenn is also a member of Tri-M, a music honor society. The best thing he likes about EHS is being in the Elba Marching Tiger Band.

Neil Grantham is the 14-year-old son of Lucia and Kenneth Grantham. His hobbies include playing golf and talking on the phone. He attends Elba United Methodist Church. The best thing Neil likes about EHS is the 3:00 bell.

Tiger Tales



CARLA GRAY
Editor
CHASTITY WILLIAMS
Assistant Editor

SPRING BREAK

Memorable Moments...

by: Melissa Benbow
Mandy Taylor-When Melissa ran over that guy's foot at LaVela. Renae Nicholson-Rex and Anna Vipul Patel-The first Assembly Youth Convention
Doug Grimes-Going to Rnae's Beach house
Shania Caldwell-Chillin' at Big 'J's'
D'Undray Peterson-Youth Awareness Workshop
Britany McCall-When I saw Renae at the Sun Dial
Derrick Daniels-Riding down the strip
Marsha Mauldin-my car getting towed

Misty Kelley-Anna driving in the wrong lane
John DuBose-Building the Pyramid
Troy Bryan-Knocking over John's pyramid
Phil Schindler-seeing DJ Smurf
Jeremy Dawkins-shooting Renae with a water gun
Laura Crowe-My mom feeding me
Melissa Grantham-getting stopped every time I breathed
Elizabeth Stephens-getting a ticket
Brooks Creel-whipping it
Melissa Benbow-Friday & Friday night with Mandy at LaVela

Elba Elementary School Menus

April 21 - 25, 1997

Breakfast
Monday - Cinnamon Toast or Cereal, Juice, Milk
Tuesday - Breakfast Pizza or Cereal, Juice, Milk
Wednesday - Sausage & Biscuit or Cereal, Juice, Milk
Thursday - Pancakes w/ Syrup or Cereal, Juice, Milk
Friday - Cheese Fries or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk

Lunch
Monday - Sloppy Joes on Bun, Whole Kernel Corn, Half Apple, Milk
Tuesday - Fish, Field Peas, Cornbread, Applesauce, Milk
Wednesday - Corn Dog, Macaroni & Cheese, Turnips w/ Pork, Half Orange, Milk
Thursday - Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Mixed Fruit, Milk
Friday - Bologna Sandwich, French Fries, Mixed Vegetables, Cake, Milk

Bank Donates Computers



From left: Michael Reed and Derrick Daniels, seniors at Elba High School, and Bob Bruckner are shown receiving donated computers from Bill Cole and Betty Lawder of Colonial Bank of Enterprise.

HERE'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN
Chandler's Furniture
CLEANS HOUSE!

IT'S A FABULOUS TIME TO SAVE!

PRICES PLUNGE TO NEW LOWS IN EVERY SINGLE DEPARTMENT!

5 Piece Group Queen \$599.95

SIMMONS BEAUTY REST Queen \$399

Contemporary multicolored loose pillowback sofa similar to illustration

\$399

Memories are refreshed by the early American bedstead dressed delicately with floral impressions. Beautiful tufted bed. Unique design designed specifically for that perfect little girl.

Twin/Twin Bed... \$129.95
Full/Full Bed... \$149.95
Queen Bed... \$179.95
Bachelorette Bed... \$199.95

Luxurious Leather Sofas Starting at **\$599**

Ashley solid wood table & 4 chairs similar to illustration **\$299**

Chandler's Furniture

Corner Backer Blvd. & By-Pass Enterprise, AL 363-1799

211 Three North Rd. Andalusia, AL 222-4511

224C Eglin Parkway Fort Walton, FL (904) 862-2006

Spring Break

by: Doug Grimes
Last week many students from Elba High School traveled to Panama City to celebrate Spring Break. These students celebrated by partying and riding up and down the "strip" yelling at other Spring Breakers from various other cities and states. The average time these students went to the beach during Spring Break was well after midnight. Whether it was shopping in the various stores along the strip, or just riding up and down the strip, everyone that went to the beach had fun. Even though riding the strip is fun, some people got pulled over and received a ticket for apparently having too much fun. Overlooking that, Spring Break is nothing more than pure undiluted fun in its purest form. Some Elba High students were overheard talking about it around Christmas! In my opinion, without Spring Break, the monotonous chore of coming to school would be quite unbearable and eventually cause the destruction of many high school juniors and seniors.

An education is something that can't be taken away from you!

GO FOR IT!!!

Clark Theatres - Enterprise

I - LIAR, LIAR (PG-13)
M-F 7-9:30 S-S 2,7,9:30

II - ANACONDA (PG-13)
M-F 7-9:30 S-S 2,7,9:30

III - MICHAEL'S NAVY (PG)
M-F 7-9:30 S-S 2,7,9:30

IV - 8 HEADS IN A DUFFELBAG (R)
M-F 7-9:30 S-S 2,7,9:30

College Cinema

I - MURDER AT 1600 (R)
M-F 7-9:30 S-S 2,7,9:30

II - SCREAM (R)
M-F 7-9:30 S-S 2,7,9:30

III - THE SAINT (PG-13)
M-F 7-9:30 S-S 2,7,9:30

BARGAIN MATINEES SAT & SUN
2:00 P.M. ONLY ALL SEATS \$3.00

Seniors of the Week



by: Carla Gray
Aaron Creel is the daughter of Danny and Sami Creel. Her hobbies include shopping, sleeping, talking on the phone and exercising. She is a member of VICA, and the journalism staff. She attends the Westside Baptist Church. Her goal for this year is to graduate. Her plan after High School is to attend ESTC. Her favorite past time is playing with Lindsay.

Renae Nicholson is the daughter of Patricia Nicholson. Her hobbies are working out and walking. Her clubs include Mu Alpha Theta, Sr. Beta, FBLA, Girl Scout Troop #300. She attends the Elba United Methodist Church. Her goal for this year is to graduate. Her plan after High School is to attend Auburn University in the fall and major in pharmacy. Her favorite past time is going to the beach during Spring Break.

4-H & FFA Steer Show

The Alabama State Steer Show has once again come and gone, but not without Coffee County and Elba making its presence known. Around the state our county has been ranked in the top three in Show Calf Competition for many years. This year, Coffee County is number 1. Students attending any school in the county can participate with a steer or heifer, in 4-H or FFA. Jacob Davis (FFA Sponsor) and Stan Windham (4-H Sponsor) offer positive leadership in these programs for the students.

Showing a calf is a tremendous commitment for a young person and their family. Feeding, grooming and working take place on a daily basis. Show days usually begin before daylight and end sometime into the night. The entire family must be involved to make this work and Elba is a seasoned expert and seeks guidance and direction from her parents Mr. and Mrs. Durwood Kelley.

EHS has more students in this program than any school in the county. These students deserve a round of applause for a job well done!



Pictured above are Elizabeth and Matthew Farris with their champion steer.

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***Vinyl Siding & Eave Overhang**
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***Storm Windows & Replacement Windows**

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Tell'em you read it in...
THE ELBA CLIPPER

PASTOR'S CORNER
W. K. ELLISON
HARRIS TEMPLE C.O.G.I.C.

Establishing your home as a spiritual refuge

Proverbs tells us that "he who fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge." The fortress is the rooting of one's life in the faithfulness of God. When everything in this world crumbles and collapses, unshakable trust in God's goodness is the only source of peace.

One of the most important truths we can draw from Scripture is that God Himself is "home." He alone is a refuge and the place of repose for the human soul. When life is normal, this truth can be hard to remember. Often it takes tragedy, trial, and distress to shake us loose from earthly security and compel us to take refuge in the Lord.

Most of us are familiar with the promises of Psalm 91, beginning with Verse 1: "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty." The psalmist enumerates the ways and means of God's protection: safety from the snare, from pestilence, night terrors, and enemy arrows.

The strongest statement takes the form of a conditional promise: "If you make the Most High your dwelling - even the Lord, who is my refuge, then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. For He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."

Tent revival to begin today in Elba

The Church of Jesus Christ, of Samson, Ala., will have a tent revival beginning today, Thursday, April 17, in Elba.

The tent will be located three blocks north of the Whitewater Bridge on the left, beginning at 7:30 each evening.

Rev. Sasser invites everyone to attend, where "there will be hope, faith, healing, promises and love," during the meetings.

Senior Citizens of Cordelia Street meet

The Senior Citizens of Cordelia Street met on another beautiful Spring day, Thursday, April 10, at the HRDC building on Factory St.

Since it is almost fishing and gardening time, these were the topics of many of the conversations the seniors shared.

Some members played the usual domino games, while others attended to business downtown; some of the members are still unable to attend.

A delicious luncheon was served to the following people:

Frank and Lennie McCollough, Zedie Bouyer, Bonnie Wesley, Mary Harris, Arthur and Dottie Hudson, Iris McDowell, Mary Sautley, Hugo Smith, Merle Boling, Alene Engle, Nonie Marks, Agnes Sunson, Cora McBride, Mary Phillips, Wanda Sasser.

Visitors are welcome to join the group.

Mt Gilead to have barbecue Saturday

Mt. Gilead Baptist Church of Rt. 3, Elba, will have a barbecue on Saturday, April 19, with the proceeds going to the Gideons.

Serving will begin at 5 p.m.

Card of Thanks

The family of **WILLIE M. HORNSEY**, would like to thank all the friends and neighbors for all the flowers, food, phone calls, prayers, and their many acts of kindness shown to us during the sickness and death of our father and grandfather.

Your thoughts and prayers will always be with us.

JANARIA H. THOMAS & FAMILY
WILDA H. LITTLE & FAMILY

4-17-17

Card of Thanks

The family of **COMPTON EDWIN COOPER** acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expressions of sympathy.

4-17-17

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY - J.E. Wesley
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Afternoon... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE - Jimmy Porter
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

ALBERTSON BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Serv... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH - Milton Harrington
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Serv... 7:00 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST - Eddie Bass
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH - O. O. Mart
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service... 6:00 p.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST - E. H. Hill
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship... 12:00 p.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.

DANAMUS BAPTIST CHURCH - Faron Golden
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.

DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH - Donnie Marler
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST - Bill Beck, Minister
Bible Study... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.

THE SHEPHERD'S FOLD CHURCH OF GOD - Lamar Dean
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Evening Serv... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Serv... 7:00 p.m.

Round & About
With ERIA
897-2006

Scripture: Rev. 2:8-17
***Thinking of you, praying for you: The Moody family, the Eutsey family, Joseph, Rev. E. Magwood, Johnie M. Daniels, Hannah Coleman, Anthony Kelley, Pearl Tillis, Adell Underwood, Mattie R. Henderson.

***April Birthdays: Della Magwood - April 6; Bernice Capell - April 7; Marlar Rideaux - April 10; Marcus Kelley - April 10; Michael Manning - April 12; Hannah Coleman - April 13; Robert Coleman - April 28; Lonnie R. Coleman - April 28.

***The Twenty-fifth Anniversary program for Rev. Dr. and Mrs. John L. Grayer will be celebrated Sunday, April 20, 2:30 p.m., at Elba Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Newton St. in Elba.

Mistress of Order - Sister Lozine Henry; Theme - "Preach the Word" - 2 Tim. 4:2; Devotional by visiting officers. The visiting choir will render music.

Welcome and occasion by Sis. Helen Thigpen; tribute to the pastor and wife - Dea. Willie C. Tillis; solo by Dea. Shirley Davis Jr.; introduction of speaker - Rev. Landy Magwood; anniversary sermon - Rev. J.G. Chatham, pastor, Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, Troy, and Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Pine Level; offering - visiting officers.

Remarks, announcements and benediction; presentations by presidents of auxiliaries.

***Family Dinner - Sunday, April 13, dinner was served in the home of Grover and Eria Belcher of Elba. Those enjoying the occasion were Milton Belcher and Kiki of Montgomery; Joseph and Inez Long, Glenwood; Juanita Brooks, Rec Nita, and Dea'Nard, of Enterprise; Ernestine Kelley, Melissa, Jana, Kim, Curtis, Wesley, and Tony; Evelyn Manning, Mason and Jason Guley, D.J. Belcher, Mt'Co Daniels, Maria Kelley, Lydia, Tiffany, Brandy and Brandon; Alan Belcher, Sharon Wright, Tia and Ma'lick.

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9:30 a.m. - Sunday School; 10:45 a.m. - regular order of services; program - 3 p.m.

Devotional by visiting officers. New Life COGIC choir rendered music; welcome and occasion by Sis. Charlotte Caldwell; duet by Sis. Shakiha Williams and Sis. Stephanie Williams; Friends and Family - Sister Juna Rodgers; Music - Youth; Presentation of guest minister - Rev. Williams; sermon - Elder Terry Ellison, pastor of New Life COGIC, Montgomery; offering, remarks and benediction; Mistress of Ceremony - Sis. Marietta Carpenter.

***African-American History - Youth meeting to know "April" - Monthly Motivation: Thoughts have power; thoughts have energy, and you can make your world or

Views from

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

While Melissa's feet have finally quit growing, Melanie's are growing almost daily and lately it seems like if her shoes aren't too tight to wear they are either too dirty or are just worn out. Last week we got her some new white tennis shoes to wear to school, and of course she wore them to school one time before she had a chance to wear them to the park and get them too muddy for even Clorox to handle. I have never dyed shoes. However, a good shade of mud red would make 'em last a lifetime!

ELBA TIGERS KEEP PLAYOFF HOPES ALIVE

The Elba Tigers had their backs to the wall last week for their area encounter against Headland, but came through like the Tigers of old and blasted the Rams 14-4 to keep their playoff hopes alive and well. The earlier loss to Rehoboth made the game a "must win" for Elba, and even though Headland was probably the favorite to win the game, the Tigers rose to the occasion and claimed one of their most impressive wins of the season. If the Tigers can remain focused on the job at hand and play their best every time they hit the field, they could very well still make the playoffs and then set their sights on what has been an elusive state title. It won't be easy, but it can be done, and this team can do it!

LADY TIGERS PICK UP FOUR WINS DURING WEEK

The Elba Lady Tiger softball team had a busy week of action last week with four regular season games and four games in the "Sweet Swingers" softball tournament. To play eight games in a week is good for any team because it gives the players much needed game experience and keeps them sharp, and the week was a little better than expected for the Lady Tigers as they went 4-4 for the week to move their season record to 7-10. The Lady Tigers claimed big wins over Opp and New Brockton during the week's action, and should now know that they can defeat anyone on their schedule if they play well and give maximum effort for every single play. If the girls will work hard and set their goals high, they could pull off a surprise or two by the time the Sectional Tournament rolls around on May 3. 'C'mon girls, it is up to you!

SWEET SWINGERS TOURNEY WET, BUT FUN FOR ALL

The third annual Sweet Swingers high school girl's softball tournament was held last week in Elba and despite the stormy weather Friday night and early Saturday, it turned out to be the biggest and best in the short history of the event. The teams sloshed through the mud and rain on Friday night, and still a little early on Saturday; however, once the sun came out the fields began to dry and by the end of the day all the wet weather was all but forgotten. The tournament provided a financial boom for the fast-food restaurants and convenience stores in town, and this year when I was cleaning up I even saw a lot of bags from stores in town where the visitors shopped for things like dry clothes. I think the tournament is one of the best anywhere in the state, and if the weatherman will ever cooperate, it could grow even more. It was a long and wet day, but it was still fun.

IN CLOSING...

***I watched a little of the Masters golf tournament Sunday and will admit that the Tiger Woods may very well be playing a game that many of the pro's on the tour aren't even familiar with. Woods can hit the ball farther than anyone on the tour, has a deadly short-iron game and puts with a touch others would love to have. If he doesn't become the best ever to play the game, there will be only him to blame.

***The Dixie Youth and Dixie Minor Baseball Leagues will hold practice games this Saturday at Legion Field, with six games set to take place over a 12-hour span, beginning at 9:00 A.M. All the teams will play one game, and while the pitching rules will be changed slightly, the games will still be played to win, and they should be fun. If it's not raining, 'c'mon out!

Elba Tigers keep playoff hopes alive with 14-4 area win

The Elba Tigers hit the field twice last week and claimed one win and one loss to see their record for the season move to 6-11.

"We made far too many errors to win in Luverne," said Coach David Lowery, "but we played pretty well in the win over Headland and kept our playoff hopes alive. We were a little short-handed last week due to injuries to two starters; however, our younger players really came through and the win over Headland was a good one."

LUVERNE 9

ELBA 7

The Elba Tigers traveled to Luverne last Monday afternoon and were upset by the Luverne Tigers 9-7.

Following are highlights of both games:

The Elba Lady Tigers continued their softball season last week and split double-headers with Highland Home and Opp to see their record for the season move to 5-7.

Following are highlights of last week's action:

ELBA 14
H. HOME 4

The Elba Lady Tigers led all the way to dispose of Highland Home 14-4, last Tuesday afternoon at Highland Home.

Elba pulled out to a 9-0 lead in the fifth inning and rolled to the win.

Bonnie Vaughan got 4 hits and scored 3 runs to lead Elba, while Vaughan Boyd, Melissa Grantham and Melissa Mularz all added 2 hits.

H. HOME 4
ELBA 2

The Elba Lady Tigers saw their bats go silent as they dropped the nightcap 4-2 to Highland Home.

Elba scored two runs in the seventh inning to cut the deficit in half, but it was too little, too late, as it took the loss.

Deirda Jones and Chastity Williams both got 2 hits for Elba.

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Sports

In "Sweet Swingers" tournament

Baker & Headland take home softball crowns

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation hosted its third annual "Sweet Swingers" high school girl's softball tournament last weekend at Hawkins-Williams Park, with Baker, of Mobile, and Headland claiming tournament titles.

CLASS 1A-6A DIVISION

Baker swept past four opponents to claim the 1A-6A title with an unbeaten record. The Honeybees defeated Carroll, of Ozark, 19-5, Dothan 12-8, Dale County 18-12 and Dale County, again, 12-2, to take home the championship trophy.

The Dale County Lady Warriors placed second in the 12-team event by posting three wins. The Lady Warriors defeated Charles Henderson 6-1, Ashford 10-3 and Choctaw County 12-10, while falling twice to Baker 18-12 and 12-2.

The Baker Junior Varsity placed third, followed by Kinston in the tournament, while Ashford finished fourth. Other teams in the tournament included Carroll, of Ozark; Dothan; Andalusia; Greenville; Pike County; Central; of Hayneville; Charles Henderson, of Troy; and Selma.

CLASS 1A-3A DIVISION

In the 1A-3A division of the tournament, the Headland Lady Rams made it look easy as they rolled to the title with a perfect 4-0 slate. The Lady Rams defeated Brantley 10-1, Highland Home 11-

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CCC

(Continued from Page One)

After several minutes of discussion on procedural matters, Chairman Grimsley asked Fuller if he could deny Westbrook's motion since it - when restated - did not include rescinding the commissions previous action.

Fuller said, "There's nothing illegal about the motion. It's just a question of procedure and precedent for the commission to follow."

Grimsley restated Westbrook's motion to promote Rugg to the position of maintenance supervisor and Stephens again seconded the motion.

The vote was taken with Commissioners Westbrook, Stephens, Bernst Brooks, and Kayo Lewis voting in favor of the motion. Commissioners Grimsley, Doug Dalrymple, and Len Averett opposed the motion.

Rugg is now the supervisor of the county's maintenance department. His rate of pay will increase from \$11.84 per hour to \$13.27 per hour.

One would have thought the matter was closed; however, that was not the case.

Chairman Grimsley asked for a motion to do away with the screening committee. When he didn't receive one, he made the motion and it was seconded by Dalrymple.

After a brief discussion, Grimsley withdrew his motion (Dalrymple his second) commenting that he felt the motion should be made by the ones

in favor of promoting Rugg.

We need a motion to do away with this screening committee and I'm not going to make it!" said Chairman Grimsley.

A discussion lasting several minutes of what could or could not be done concerning the screening committee resulted in a motion by Commissioner Brooks, seconded by Stephens, to abolish the committee.

Brooks' motion failed in a 3-3-1 vote. The vote was Brooks, Stephens, and Westbrook in favor of the motion while Grimsley, Dalrymple, and Averett opposed the motion.

After a more confusing discussion, a motion to reconsider the screening committee was passed in a 4-3 vote. Then a motion to table the matter passed in a 4-3 vote.

Bottom line, the matter of what to do with the screening committee is still unresolved.

Finally, turning to other matters, County Engineer Randy Tindell informed the commissioners that his department was experiencing severe problems with County Roads 349 and 206.

He noted that both these roads are in real bad shape due to heavy loads passing over them. Patches are not holding.

Tindell asked that commissioners

pass a resolution placing a 10 ton weight limit on these two roads until sufficient action can be taken correcting the problem.

Commissioners approved Tindell's request.

The commission adjourned its meeting until Monday, April 28, at 9:00 a.m.

Other matters of business acted on by the commission were as follows:

***Voted to send out bid requests on gasoline and diesel fuel.

***Approved a recommendation by the landfill committee to send out bid requests on paving the entrance to the county landfill. Bids will be opened on May 12, 1997.

***Appointed Walt McDuffie of the Enterprise Division and Timothy Gatlin of the Elba Division to serve on the Southeast Alabama Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc.

***Re-appointed Jessie Anderson to the Damascus Water Authority.

David Baker, Captain of the Elba Rescue Squad, presented the council with an ordinance and requested it be passed. It designates the rescue squad as THE emergency responder for Elba. The council took no action, but promised to study the measure.

Rescue squad members said there was no problem at this time, but with commercial firms moving into the area, it could cause problems if not addressed.

City Clerk Donnie

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The Elba Clipper

VOLUME 100, NUMBER 46

50 CENTS

ELBA, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1997

1 SECTION, 16 PAGES

AFTER MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS REST PEA RIVER ONCE AGAIN TURNING TURBINES

Elba Power Dam back on line generating electricity

By Marvin McLain, Editor

After more than 30 years, the Elba Dam is back on line and generating electrical power. Two men's dream is finally being realized and the flowing water of Pea River is once again turning a turbine producing electricity. Ben Ammons and Jesse Blenn have worked long and hard rebuilding what many have said could never be rebuilt. In the past, several others tried but none were successful. However, there was one individual, who this writer remembers well, who told everyone who would listen, and even some who would not, that the Elba Dam could be made to work again. That individual was Robert "Bob" Folsom.

It is a shame that Bob is not alive today to hear the hum originating from the Elba Dam. He would certainly be saying, "I told you so!" On Wednesday afternoon, April 9, at approximately 2:00 p.m., Ammons threw the switch that put the power generator on line with AEC (Alabama Electric Cooperative).

The smallest of three generators is now in operation and is producing between 210 to 250 kilowatts per hour. Putting this in perspective, it takes approximately 1 kw per hour to supply an average size home with electricity. Ammons and Blenn certainly agree that the restoration of the dam has been, and continues to be, a learning experience. There have been a few "minor bugs" to work out on the turbine, generator and power control panel; however, the generator is working well. The two men will now begin to focus their attention on getting the two larger generators into working condition. Each of the larger units will produce about twice the electrical power as the small one. Although Ben would not give a specific time frame for getting the large generators on-line, he hopes to have at least one working in less than a year. "There are a lot of unknowns in this type work," he said. Ammons purchased the dam from

the City of Elba in 1992 for \$125,000 and began the long, hard process of putting it back into working condition. "You don't just go out and purchase parts for generators and turbines placed into operation in early 1920," said Ammons. "Just finding a place to start was quite a chore," he said. According to Blenn, parts and pieces that can't be found in salvage yards have to be made. The old power house had deteriorated, parts and pieces of the old generators had rusted or were missing all together, and the canal feeding the dam had filled in and had trees growing in it. Also, a lot of work has been done, and will be done, to the dam itself. Work on the dam was progressing well in 1994 until July when high water once again struck and slowed the work-in-progress. Everything that has been done, and will be done, to the dam has to meet regulations set forth by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Prior to being placed into operation, the dam had to pass final inspection by the FERC. Also, technicians from AEC had to inspect the "equipment" prior to placing the dam on-line.

Please See DAM, Page 13



GENERATING POWER ONCE AGAIN... Pictured above is the powerhouse at the Elba Dam as it looks today. The canal is clear and once again channeling the waters of the Pea River through the turbines generating electricity. Ben Ammons, owner of Elba Hydro Power, and Jesse Blenn have worked long and hard to get the dam in the shape that it is now in; however, there are more long hours of hard work ahead as they work on the restoration of the two larger generators. (MORE PICTURES CAN BE SEEN ON PAGE 13)

Criminal court docket set for April 29 in Elba

By Marvin McLain - Editor

The Criminal Jury Docket, Coffee County, Alabama, Elba Division has been set for Tuesday, April 29, at 9:00 a.m. with the Honorable Thomas E. Head, III, presiding. A "call" of the docket has been scheduled for Friday (tomorrow), April 25, at 9:00 a.m. There are 25 cases involving 15 individuals on the docket. The following is a listing of the cases that were set for trial:

State of Alabama
Vs
Spencer Owen Ziglar
Ziglar is charged with manslaughter.

State of Alabama
Vs
Rudolph Kyles
The defendant is charged with assault in the second degree.

State of Alabama
Vs
Dennis Harper
He is charged with rape in the first degree.

State of Alabama
Vs
Willie James Daniels
Daniels is charged with rape in the first degree.

State of Alabama
Vs
Michelle Daugherty
The defendant is charged with theft in the second degree.

State of Alabama
Vs
Adam Davis
Davis is charged with murder.

State of Alabama
Vs
Randy Burks
He faces the charge of burglary in the third degree.

State of Alabama
Vs
Michael Lashawn Duncan
Duncan is charged with burglary in the third degree and arson in the second degree.

State of Alabama
Vs
Anthony Charles Rivers
He is charged with burglary in the first degree.

State of Alabama
Vs
Bobby Ray Tyson
The defendant is charged with possession of burglar's tools and unlawful possession of marijuana in the first degree.

the second degree.

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Elba W & E Board meeting routine

By Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba Water and Electric Board regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, April 15th, at Elba City Hall. Chairman Tim Johnson presided. The meeting opened with a review of the financial reports and Johnson told board members the accounts receivable report looked better. Staff members have been working with the local court officials to collect old accounts and recover losses from bouncers checks. The water department continues to show a loss, Johnson said, but a review is underway to see just what can be done to slow this financial drain.

Utility Superintendent James Grimes reported on a low water pressure complaint on old 84 West. He said the water crews had found pressure at 40 pounds, even with open faucets inside the homes and that was considered adequate. He noted that 1/2 inch pipes going into the homes could cause some of this low pressure problem. Grimes asked for, and received, approval to take a used truck the utility recently retired and transfer a dump body from a city truck which has "died." He said the work could be done in-house for about \$500. Board members heard several requests for spending funds... either for the departments or to help nonprofit organizations. Part way

through approving these request, the board unanimously approved setting up a sub-budget committee to look into all request for donations. \$200 was approved as a donation to the DARE program; a request for radio spots to support a child abuse program received conditional approval... if it had been done last year; approval was given to pay half of the cost of a \$2,000 computer terminal for the bookkeeper's office... the city will pay the other half and both departments will get use of it; \$25.00 dues for the Chamber of Commerce were approved; adding lighting to Evergreen Cemetery was approved, but in stages to be sure the plan will help the lighting in the cemetery; \$200 for the Miss Elba scholarship fund was approved; a request to donate \$200 to the county extension system sponsored Senior games was tabled; also tabled (for additional information) was paying \$195 each for lights on six Welcome to Elba signs.

Adam C. Davis, age 19, of Opp will be tried for murder in Elba on Tuesday, April 29, beginning at 9:00 a.m. He was charged following a June 30, 1996, auto crash that resulted in the death of Amber Spinks, age 18, of Kinston. Davis was the driver of the vehicle when it ran off the road and hit an embankment at the intersection of Coffee County roads 460 and 492. Spinks was a passenger in the car.

NEWS BRIEFS

There was a small riot at the Coffee County Jail last Saturday evening. According to officials, the incident started when a cigarette was taken from an inmate (no smoking is allowed in the jail). To end the five-hour standoff, tear gas was used to force the twenty-three prisoners involved out of cell block two. Officers from Elba, Enterprise, and Alabama State Troopers were called in to assist the sheriff's department in controlling the situation.

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Meet Your Elba Police Officers

Meet Police Officer Kevin Burke. Kevin is a native of Elba and has been a member of the Elba Police Department for approximately 10 months.

Officer Burke presently works in the patrol division of the department on second shift. Kevin graduated from Southwest Alabama Police Academy and has six years of experience in law enforcement. He has also received certification on the Intoxilizer 5000, radar, chemical weapon, and has attended various law enforcement schools.

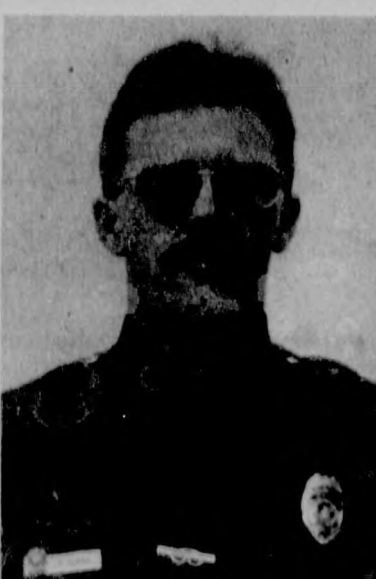
"I enjoy meeting and helping people," said Burke. "I like solving problems without resorting to violence."

One of Kevin's dislikes is the lack of respect from the public. "People don't show respect to police officers until we are needed and are there for them," said Officer Burke.

Kevin's most memorable experiences as a police officer, so far, has been helping apprehend a fugitive from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and helping bust a drug ring.

The one thing Kevin would like for the people of Elba to know is that "we stand behind the policeman's oath and are here to serve and protect."

Two of Burke's wishes for the department are coming true: the acquiring of more equipment and



getting up-dated cars (two cruisers are soon to be delivered). Kevin's hobbies include soccer, volleyball, tennis, bike riding, fishing, hunting, and all outdoor activities. "I wish more things would come to Elba for the enjoyment of entire families, not just the children," said Burke. "Families could maybe learn to communicate more like in the good ole days," he continued. Everybody would not be afraid to speak to one another on the streets making Elba a better place to live or visit."

Jury finds Enterprise man guilty of attempted murder

An Enterprise man has been found guilty of attempted murder. Clarence White, of Enterprise, was convicted of attempted murder by an Enterprise Division jury late Wednesday afternoon, April 16.

He is scheduled to be sentenced by Circuit Judge Thomas E. Head, III on Thursday (TODAY), April 24, at 9:00 a.m. in Enterprise.

White faces a minimum of 20 years imprisonment to a maximum life since the offense involved a firearm.

The case stemmed from a shooting incident that occurred at Bates Memorial Stadium during a junior high school football game on September 7, 1995.

District Attorney Mark E. Fuller feels that this conviction is a message from citizens that this type violent behavior will not be tolerated at our schools or school activities.

The DA further stated that his office has a zero tolerance policy toward firearms being possessed or used in any way on school campuses.

In an unrelated case, the manslaughter case involving Brick Miller of Enterprise ended in a hung jury.

Miller was charged with two counts of manslaughter involving the traffic deaths of Claude and Betty Lee and one count of second degree assault involving the traffic injury of David Jones.

Brockton, AL on Oct. 5, 1995 the day after Hurricane Opal swept through the county.

The Lee's car was in the process of being removed from downed trees in the roadway when Miller's vehicle came crashing through the same trees. Both the Lees and Jones were struck by the automobile.

Claude Lee was pronounced dead at the scene while Betty Lee died a short time later at an Enterprise hospital.

No date has been set at this time for the case to be retried.

Elba grand jury indicts forty-six

The Coffee County Grand Jury - Elba Division met in regular session on Monday, April 20.

Members of the grand jury were presented evidence in sixty-six cases. Indictments were returned on forty-six of the cases heard.

Forty-four of the indictments were on felonies and two were on misdemeanors.

Four of the cases were continued, fourteen were no billed, and 2 were disposed of in District Court.

Arraignments for those individuals indicted are set for Tuesday, May 27, 1997.

* * HAPPENINGS * *

EIGHTH GRADERS & PARENTS MEETING There will be a meeting of Elba Junior High eighth-grade students and their parents Thursday (TONIGHT), April 24, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Due to new graduation requirements by the state this is a very important meeting for both students and parents.

COMMISSION MEETING The Coffee County Commission will hold its bi-monthly meeting, Monday, April 28, at 9:00 a.m. in the Community Room located in the County Complex in New Brockton, AL.

RELAY FOR LIFE The 1997 Relay for Life sponsored by the Coffee County Chapter of the American Cancer Society is set for Friday, May 16, on the campus of Enterprise State Junior College in Enterprise. The twelve hour event will begin at 7:00 p.m. Friday evening and end at 7:00 a.m. Saturday morning. The candlelighting ceremony in honor of those who lost their battle with cancer will begin at 10:00 p.m. For more information call Carol Chancellor at 393-3212 or Carolyn Patrick at 894-6368 or the ACS at 793-1012.

COME JOIN US The Coffee County Department of Human Resources staff will sponsor an "R.C. Kick Off" on Wednesday, April 30, from 10:30 until 12:00 Noon. The event will be held at the DHR building located at 3881 Salem Road in Enterprise. The purpose of the event is to share the goals and principles concerning better care given to children through the "System of Care."